My Heart's Delight.

By LOUISE STOCKTON.

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"I am Miss Margaret Woolstine

The newspaper which Reuben Hale and I own and editis, I am aware, a "one horse" affair, but we are satisfied with it. It is a small eight paged weekly, largely made up of advertisements and scissorings, and the subscription price is one dollar a year. We have no apporters; we never print telegrams nor murders, and we have a subscription list of 178,000 names—farmers, gardeners and country people, because whorever there are people raising fruit, truck or flowers there goes the little Seed and Graft, and we are old fogy enough to employ girls to fold and direct these newspapers, and these girls do their work cheerfully and seem to be happy. When one of them marries we give her a sewing machine and a dining room table. One day I came into the office after an

absence of a couple of hours, and found. Hale scissoring the New York dailies. "Dan," said he, "there was a young woman in here to see you.

"Very well," said I, getting a glass of water, "you saw her, I suppose! It is as hot as ginger outside, Routen."
"I saw her," he replied, "but she didn't want to see me. It was the old gentleman

she was after." "Now, come," said I, sitting down, "I am not going to shirk the title, but you'll have to take share in it. You can't be dis-tinguished from me by it, my boy! I am gray, but you are bald. I am lean, and you are stout, and there isn't a six months' difference in our years or our looks, Reu-

Have it as you please," said he, "but that is what she said-she wanted to see old Mr. Crawford. I think she thought me the young one."

"Was she a blind young woman?" "Blind!" he repeated. "Just wait until you see her eyes. Oh, she is coming back! At 9 o'clock, Daniel. Even if she didn't want to see me I asked her to do that. I told her you'd be sure to be in then."

Well, I won't," I answered. "I am going out to Melvin on the 1:45. I am not going to stay in town this sweltering after-"Yes, you are. You'll thank your happy

stars if you do. If you miss her, Daniel, you'll break her heart, and after you have een her she'll break yours."
"I am going on the 1:45 train," I re-

Bet you a dollar you don't," said Haie. "I told her to come at 2, but she said I p'clock would be more convenient, and she would try to find you then, and Daniel, you had better take your feet off the chair. d brush that hair of yours up a little, for here she comes. I hear the echo of her roice and the patter of her heels in the out office, where she has just asked Marvey if

What a dunce you are! I really think"- But at that moment the door opened and Marvey appeared.
"Lady to see Mr. Crawford," said he, stepping aside, and there entered a young woman dressed very plainly in dark blue,

with a smoke colored veil pretty well cov You do not remember me Mr Ceur ford," she said. "I am Miss Margaret Woolstine. I see you very often in church, but of course you do not see me, but you

have to"- and she nervously laughed, you have to hear me, you know, 'Mr. Crawford," said Renben, getting up without the gillmmer of a smile and

with great deliberation, "I am going to Melvin on the 1:45, and I shall have to leave at once. Will you kindly pay that dollar for the on account 10 He put on his hat, took his cane, bowed to stipe, went out the door, and I heard him immediately tramping upstairs to the com-posing room, where I knew he had proofs read. There were times when Reuben Hale was 16 years of age instead of 60. Miss Woolstine looked more comfortable after we were alone and she took off her

"I almost felt as if I knew you, Mr. rewford," she seld. "When I was a little wirl I used to sit with my uncle in his new ust where I could see you as I looked at the printed glass window, and now from the chair of course we have you in full

"And you do not think me rude because you so often establine watching you?"
The gar slightly colored. "You have the kindest face in all the church. I could never think you rade." And with that

she became scarlet. "I will not say what I think of yours," I said gently, "or you might think me very rude indeed, but can I do anything for

She crushed her well tightly in her hands. "I do not want to take up your time, Mr. Crawford; but I do want to talk to you s

minute. I have to support myself, and I want to get newspaper work, Mr. Crawford, and I thought perhaps you would give me some. It is so quiet here

I looked at her with surprise. "I thought yen lived with your nnoie, Mr. Meson?" I did, but we do not agree, and I have no money of my own, and as I have to leave there I must support myself."

But surely your natural resource would in music, Miss Woolstine. Your voice aught to be worth a great deal to you. I could not sing in public," she quickly answered. "The church I do not mind

because I have gone there all my life, but the concert stages oh. I could not do that And I would rather not teach. It worries me to teach mustic." You would make a success in con-

She shook her head. "And." perts." continued. "It would be for more incrative than any work I could give you. would not like a position here at all. girls are good, respectable girls, but they would not suit you at all. And the wages "I have my salary in the church" she

"that would belp a little, and I do not want a situation with your girls, Mr Crawford; I want crittorial work." Ho, ho, editorial work!" I smiled at a: "but you know Mr. Haie and I do all

that and have time to spare." But I have helped you a little," she exminined with commons. "I have written

you several things and you have always published them. Last week you made an editorial of one."

"So, indeed! Then you are 'Mark Willist" and I noticed my head like a Chi-ness mandasin, I have since been inform-ed. "Well, you are not only a very beau-tiful young lady, but you are a clever one too. I don't know that we ought to refuse Mr. Mark Willist

"Oh, please do not," she cried. "Isbould be so glad to come here, and I think I could eson leven to be useful. Leonld out out paragraphs for you, and that must be such stupid work for you to do, and I could write on what subjects you thought best, and if you or the other gontleman wanted to go away for a few days I am sure I could do different things for you. And," she added, "yre might both want to go away ogether together. Suppose today you also would have liked to have left town on the 2:05 train. Wouldn't you have been more com-fortable to have known some one was here eady to receive messages or attend to your ordera!

At this how could I help smiling, and I told her that her reasoning almost convinced me. "Indeed," I added, "it would do so but for two reasons—one, we do not need you in the slightest, and the other is that this stuffy office is no place for a young lady.

She stood up and I sould see tried to look entirely indifferent, but her lips trembled and her face paled.

"Of course then," she answered me, "there is nothing more to be said, and I can only beg your pardon Mr. Crawford, for having troubled you."
As I sat still looking at her it flashed

upon me that perhaps if I knew more of the history of this girl I should not so hastily shut the door upon her. And I hastily shut the door upon her. And I have a very strong feeling about disappointing women. When I married my wife and I had only a meager salary upon which to live, and I grumbled enough because I had to work all night, and in consequence slept nearly all day. I thought I was deprived of my shere of sunlight and social life, and my wife tenderly agreed

After she suddenly failed in health and died I discovered that she had worked in our little house all day and sewed for the abops at night! It was thus she bought my little comforts! And now that she was dead and could not share the comfort and repose of my life it seemed to me that because of her deprivations I ought to be more thoughtful of other women. Little enough did the girls guess how often they owed some little pleasure or indulgence to plending of my wife's memory. Thinking thus I said:

"Are you quite determined on newspaper work, Miss Woolstine?"

Quite. And perhaps I should tell you that I have an offer which I can nocept from The Royal Express, although I have not written for them, but I have just come from there and they seem desirous of try-"Do you want to go there!" She flushed painfully. "No, I do not. It

is so public. There are so many men going and coming. I rubbed my hands nervously.
"Sit down, Miss Woolstine; who did you see there—at the office?"

'Mr. Finley, the editor." "And you will go there?" "I think I ought at least to try it, don't

you? It is one of our best papers."

Thave not described Margaret Woolstine, and I do not know how to do so. She was a lovely creature, tail, slender, with a suerb carriage of the head and the most charming coloring. Her eyes were dark and tender, but pride and obstinacy curved her pretty mouth, and I often thought it could not be pleasant to cross her will. thus far I have never had to do more than observe what has happened to others who tried to subdue and conquer her.

charming and innocent, I thought of my law defying crew." vife, who was also a Margaret, and I knew she would not have allowed the child to go into such a crowd as frequented The Royal Express, and I said: Have you no mother?"

"I have only my uncle," she answered, and he is angry with me. My mother

and father are dead " Very well," said I, "some one must take care of you, and I am going to ask you to let me try for a little while until your nucle has slept his anger off. And although we do not actually need another editor you can be of use to us, and I want

Did she resent this half gradging invita-No. She looked at me with content and happiness in her eyes and asked me if he should begin the next morning.

When Hale came down stairs Miss Wool-stine was gone and I was in a little room back of our office taking papers out of a

"How is this," he said with a fine affectation of wonder, "didn't you get off?"
"Hale," said I, "we are going to have another editor, and this room will have to be made ready for her at once. I think we'll put a matting on the floor and make it look clean and cool, and we'll hang a pink oursain at the window. This deak will do. but we must get a better chair. If you will lear our belongings out I'll send Marvey for the scrub woman and I'll go for th

"By George" said he, "are you daft? What on earth are you talking about?" And when I told him he listened and his only reply was an occasional ejaculation of "Oh, Lord" but his intonation of that ex pression never varied



I sat down crushed and quilty It is very certain that had Miss Wool tine gone to the office of The Royal Ex ress she would not lave had the chance housekeeping has we afforded her. With a limbe white appear tied over her tark gress, and an obtrustve duster in her and, ahe very soon learned to keep us in ory good order indeed. Bus she had the are, most angelic talent of making that rder ours and not her own. She never put ur inkatuals in the middle of the tables. me stood as I liked it, close to my hand,

title Hale's was at arm's length from Mis.

and she never introd a revise with the first proofs. If I put a book on the shell I found t there, dusted no doubt, but where I had laid it. Life in our establishment was very simple. There was no rush of reporters no late hours, no excitament over news.

TheWithita

The flowers bloomed in the spring, and we told how to care for them and what to buy, and we grafted, budded, plowed and reaped without even as much as a harvest dinner to look after. Vainglerious old farmers sent us samples of prodigious corn and pumpkins, and market gardeners didn't forget to let us see their prize fruit and berries. Everything sweet end pretty went to Miss Margaret as her natural fee and she it was who opened the boxes of flowers, the baskets of fruit, and it was she who introduced the spirit himp and tea kettle, and who made a corner in her office where she served our little Arcadian lunches of bread and butter, fruit and corfee. But it was Hale who bought the tea cups, and money enough must be have

There were not two happier old boys than we in the city that summer, and we never tired of telling each other what an admirable person. Miss Woolstine was, She was very useful to us. Her style in writing was full of sparkle, and her very notices of giant radialies or new harrows had little graceful terms of expression that took them out of the common and made them readable. She wrote our business tters, she scissored, she read proof and filed it she sorted the mail, she kept the vater cooler in order, she opened the exchanges, she took the most complete and unobtrusive interest in everything, but with it all she kept herself spart with a gentle reserve that made us greatly admire

As I knew her better I saw there was trouble in her life, and I suspected it arose from her quarrel with hes uncle. He had been a father to her, and she had left him and was boarding in another part of the city. I knew that it was impossible that he should not miss her, and she often spoke of her old home with a lingering tenderness that was pathetic. Of the circum stances of the quarrel I knew nothing, but Hale and I agreed that Mr. Mason had been to blame.

And so the summer were away. Hale went back and forth from his house by the sea, and I came in every day from my farm at Melvin, but Miss Woolstine staid in the We invited her to visit us, we urged her to take a holiday, but she replied that she was perfectly well, and that work suited her better than play. "If we did that sort of thing," said I one

"we'd send you to write up the Tiger Hill strike. You'd like that.'

"Why should I care to go there?" she answered, coloring, as she was not to do when conversation became personal You are so much interested in mining

affairs," I replied. "I have often noticed how you stop to read The Hill Beacon, no matter what you are doing. Let the mail bring that and at once everything else is dropped. See! Your very eyes confess your guilt!" She met my accusation with as brave a

front as she could command. 'Now come, Mr. Crawford," she replied. "You notice that I read that paper because you are interested in it yourself and on the lookout for it. Pray, do you notice how rauch I also like to get The Orchard and

Meadow ?" 'I am interested in The Hill Beacon.' said I, "because my nephew, Jack Lewis, edits it. I am always anxious to see what fool thing he will do next. There never was a boy who so loved to stir up the wasp nest. I want to see what he will say when he is stung.

"And I," she boldly asserted, "am interested in those poor miners whom he abuses so much." "Abuses!" I repeated. "They are a set

"They are a poor, ignorant crowd of men," said she, "and it is our duty to edu-

cate and civilize, not abuse them. "My dear," said 1, "the United States not offer a free fight territory for outlaws. is the duty of their own governments to 'educate and civilize' them. We do not natire to make our country a reformatory

"All that is true; but their own governments won't do it, you know, and they are here We must a in

"That they are long is unfortunately true," said I.

"And your nephew's paper says they ought not to have schools where their own language is used. I think that unkind Their native tongue must be dear to them

and they naturally wish their children to Then let them teach is to their children at home; but in the public schools of this country the language of this country is in place. How else can we educate, civilize and make good citizens of them? If they

are to be part of us they should speak our language, read our books." "They will learn English. It is in the air and they cannot help it. But it keeps the children and parents together if th children's school life is that which the parents knew. How would you like your child taught in a French school a language

and a method of thought of which you were perfectly ignorant? "If I fied with my child to France, and expected him to be a French citizen, I think I would stand it. Jack is in th right, Miss Margaret. He makes a mistake in not conceding more than he does, but in

this he is right.

pink.

You are fond of your nephew and are blinded to his mistakes," said she stoutly. "I hardly know him," I replied. "I never saw him but once, and that is five years ago. He is good looking."

By that time the kertle had boiled, and Hale came in with a basket of grapes, and we talked no more of the miners nor of the

perplexities they presented.

But of Jack we did speak, and to the purpose before the day was over. The evening papers had come in, and Miss Woolstine had carried them of while Tribe talked to an eminent rose culturist wh had just produced a new rose of a pink that was yollow, and a yellow that was

All at once I heard a little ery, and Miss Woolstine appeared at the door opening into her room. Her face was white a snow, her eyes filled with horror. I did not wait for her to speak, but at once arose and went into her little office. For moment she stood still looking at me. "I cannot tell you." she whispered. "Is it had news—had news for me!"
She nodded her head like a dumb per

Now, as my wife was dead and I had a child and I know to office was safe, un heart heat still steadily as I wook her hand Nothing dreadful can happen to me

my child. I am so poor that Hale has little to take from me. But you-do not be afraid to tell me-my poor girl. She looked at me still with great he in her eyes. She furned her head back and gasped for breath; her voice was

choked and she could not speak "Do not distress yourself so." her hand firmly in my own. "If the trouble is mine do not knorouse it; if it is yours, let me help you to bear it."
"It is Jack!" she gasped. "Jack! They have killed him! They have raided the of-

fice-they bave killed him!" Ah, I was not so poor! Fate had left me a possession—vague, not in my grasp, but still a possession, for it was Jack I had meant to know—Jack who was yet to be my son and to inharit my fortune. And so I in turn looked in horror at her. "How do you know it?" I asked.

She pointed to the paper still in her hand. And there it was—all in headlines. A mob, an attack on The Hill Beacon, a defense, pistol shots, a dash into the office and a tearing out of all that was in it. Jack's body had been carried off by the

And he was dead-the handsome, gay fellow who found life with me too slow even to try for a little! And he was my wife's nephew, and I had not tried to make the career I offered him pleasant and invit-I sat down crushed and guilty, for at least I should have forced him to leave the miners, or cease his rating of the strikers. I could not look at Margaret. But in a moment she was kneeling by me, and she was telling me that he was not dead-no, no, not dead! "If he was dead they would not earry him away. He is alive-oh, you may be sure he is alive, and we must go at once to him. We must find him, for he must be sorely hurt, and we will have to nurse him. Come!" she said.
"Not you, my poor child," I answered.

"I cannot ask this of you. But you are right. He may not be dead, yet even if he is it is my duty to go. The secondrels! The poor boy!" The tears shone in her dark eyes, but she

did not weep. She looked at me with a ghastly smile What would Jack say if you came with

ent me? He would never believe me-never: And I-oh, do you think I could stay here! I should go mad-mad! Margaret, you do not know what you You never knew my nephew, dear

She turned her head away as if in appeal "Ask him that question. Why, he loved me, lie told me that his love for me would be his death—and I laughed at that—yes, I did. I thought my fate far the hardest But I could not tell him so. You see, the very wedding day was fixed, and I could not tell him that I loved him better than the man I was going to marry. Could Is You are his uncle, but you know I could not. Sometimes women have to listen when they cannot answer.

"I do not understand you, but you must You must sit down. Hale, come speak to her. I do not know whether she knows what she says.

"Indeed I know very well. It was I who killed him-I! I! He was desperate! He did not care. He told me he should not

Hale was standing at the door. Our visitor had vanished, and I looked in mute appeal to my friend, still feeling that the girl was distracted. But Hale understood. He came directly to her, took her in his strong grasp and made her sit down, He gave her a drink of water and sat down in front of her. "Now," said he, "we will help you, but first you must control your self and tell us so we can understand Jack is to be helped coel heads, not broken hearts, will have to do it. Crawford," and he turned to me, "sit down. You are as much upset as she is. Now what is the matter with Jack? It is Jack Lewis, your

tephew, I suppose I silently handed him the paper, and he read it without a word of comment. "And you knew him?" he said to Margaret. She nodded her head, "And you were enumged to him?"

The color swept up over the face that had been so drawn and white. "No," she answered, "I was not engaged to him." She looked from one to the

ther, put her hand to her throat as was choking. Then she spoke: "I will have to tell you! It was row fault, because I should have coner. I met him in the Adirondacks party because I was visiting the wife of an there was no harm in it-in seeing him so en, I mean-because every one knew that I was engaged to my consm. But the night before I left there he begged me to break the engagement, and he told me what was true, that I didn't love my cousin. But I did not know then that I old not marry Ned Mason. houl been encaced to him ever since I was and I refused to even think of breaking Jack said some bard, hard things to and I was angry with him. came home I found I could easier die than marry Ned. And my uncle was so vio ently disappointed that I had to leave the

Then I came here." The shadow of a smile passed over Hale's

face, but I took her hand in milne.
"And you did rightly," I said. "I was the one to whom you should have come "But I came because I had so often stehed you in church and thought there never was so kind a face, and I had heard ow good you were to the and of course I had to earn some money; I would not take any from my

Still you knew I was Jack's uncle?"

"Yes," she said gently. The very incoherence and simplicity of er little story touched me greatly, and l looked at Hale expecting to read in his eyes pity, sympathy. Instead I saw judgdemned her nted, and I felt he was narrow and prein

ment and disapprobation. I knew he conas a coquette who had not known her own mind. This I greatly rediced. And because he was hard in his thoughts of her I became more tender, and I should have liked to have comforted her as I should my own daughter. But I said to her that I believed in her and I should help her, "but I cannot see," I said, "why now that you are free Jack should keep up his resentment. Had I been your lover at is age I should have flown to you." reyes flashed at this.

Do you suppose I would send him word that I was free! "Surely you could in some way let him

"No girl would do such a thing as that," the promptly answered, and then her fips trembled, her eyes filled and she broke into We could not stand a bitter weeping. We could not stand this, old fellows as we were, and Hale mped up and walked amond the room. nd oleared his throat, and blow his nose, ud ejaculated all sorts of exclamations. while in broken words, in ways foreign to ne for many years, I said to soothe and rulet her. But when she ceased her sob will more priring until as met she lay ex hausted, her hoad against my shoulder. Hale brought coats and whatever he could find, and he made her a bed on chairs and persuaded her to drink wine. Then we aid her down, and we left her and went into our own room. We closed the door and looked at each other.

This is a presty place of work," said 'It is pitiful-it is terrible?' I greated He was a good fellow. I could have loved

Tremember him welf," replied Hale. a hundsome. Impetuous fallow, much too e to be made the sport of a girl's

"incre was no caprice there," and I coked up, irritated by his persistent misunderstanding; "she has acted as became a conscientious girl."
"Well, well," rejoined Hale, "we will

not discuss that question, but now-how

"I shall go at once to Tiger Hill-spot fitly named! Whether Jack is dead or alive I must see after him, Hale-he had neither father nor mother.

"Now look here," said he; haven't you igain and again written to him that you lesired to make his future your caref Didn't you bring him east and set him to work in this very office? Didn't you give him to understand you were prepared to treat him as a son? You know all this is true! And you know Jack declared his work stupid, the paper poky. You know he was determined to be the maker of his own destiny. Grieve as much as you choose Dan, but don't fall into womanish reproach of yourself. Jack was a fine fel ow, but he was pig headed, and I truly believe that when he fell in Miss Woolstine it was partly because she was out of his reach. He is just the boy to want the moon and refuse the green

"You were jealous of Jack." said I "That is stuff! I was not blind."

"And you are at this moment jealous of the girl," I added. What reply Hale would have made to

this accusation I know not, for at that mo-ment the door opened and Margaret came in. Her face was still pale and her eyes swellen, but she was perfectly calm, and I noticed that her hands did not tremble as she held them together, her flugers lightly clutched.

You are going at once " she said. I got up and hunted the time tables, and found my best train left the city at 10:30 p. m., bringing me to Tiger Hill the evening of the next day. This gave me time to go to Melvin and get what I needed for the

Well, then," said the girl, "I will be at the station at 10. I can meet you there. "But—but that is impossible" I ex-claimed "I cannot take you. It would not do at all-not at all! I will telegraph. write-you should hear at once and fully, out it is impossible to allow you to go."

Never in all my life did I meet a look so determined, so full of scorn for restraint as the one Margaret shot at me! She said not a word, but going into her office returned with her hat on, her well tightly drawn, and so sliently left the office.

Hale shrugged his shoulders.
"There was a pair of them," he said. "I do not wonder they had tumultuous scenes.

"She won't go-you do not think she will go! "Not if you wreck all the trains. But even then she might walk. Yes, Crawford,

"But she shall not! What could I do with her? Suppose she falls to weeping, to fainting in the train? And after we get there Why, Hale, I am not sure of my own safety; and with her to hamper meaible! She must be locked up-tiednot allowed to do it." 'She won't faint nor weep," said Hale,

"still she will be a dreadful burden for you. Il go see her, but I have no hope of in-"Go to her uncle," said I; "surely he has ne authority over her.'

T'll do my best," said he, "but I won't romise you success." I went to Melvin, packed up my handbag, made arrangements with my honse-keeper, and all the time my thoughts welt on Margaret in fear and dismay. My only hope was that her violent agitation might make her ill, and so prestrate her that she would be unable to force her sail to take the journet.

"It came out of the darkness like a signal," answered the girl, "and there is nothing for us to do but to go to it. We

When I reached the station a few minutes after 10 I found Hale standing at the guide entrance.

shoulder. "She is in the waiting room," he said, and taking my bag he added: "She carries less baggage than you do."
"Did you see her?" said I. "Couldn't you

convince her? Surely you could have done "Could I put the rings of Saturn around Jupiter? My dear boy, I did not try to convince her. She would not discuss the question. She saked me about the mines and the strike, but she knows far more about it all than we do. She has used the exchanges to advantage. She even knows the names of the leaders among the

telkors. There is no end to her nerve, I think. She won't break down again." "She'll break down as soon as the exeitement of starting is own. Surely you, a married man, know that a weman's calmness may be as hysterical as her tears. Good heavens!"- and I stood still, "I will not go until 7:15 to-morrow morning! I will not lose much time. I cannot do any-thing the night I get there."

Then she'll go alone. She has her sirk-et, and when her train is called she will be She won't wait for you."
"How do you know she has ber ticket?" "I bought it for her. I went to her boarding house and brought her here, then

I bought her ticket."
"Judget" said I. "And I do not believe you saw her made." "There was no use in seeing any one. Apollyon would not have stopped her. All could do was to take a little care of her

believe in my heart you encouraged her." I testily cried "Don't be unressonable Dan," said he "Don't quarrel to-night, my boy. It is as I can stand to see you go off, and declare I will go with you! Of course I vill. I can look after Margaret and leave

your free." 'And who will get this week's numberout! No, no. Hale"—and I fell into line at the ticket office—"it wouldn't be wise. I'd do better by myself, and three of us would be suin to everything And I never did quarrel with you. Busin to-night! Not much, Reuben And so getting my ticket I went into the

waiting room and found Margaret com-

posed, alert and confident.

Hale pressed through the gate, carrying our bags, and when the train run out of he station I glanced back out of the winlow and saw him trying to look cheery and hopeful but a more miserable, woo-begone face never did I see. He seaved his set as much as to say, "I knew you'd do till and immal arest.

CHAPTER III.

There was still a dim light in the sky, is the lamps were lighted in the car. copie were preparing for the pichtis journey. Men were reading the evening papers as though every moment was a consideran, and in a sent opposite a woman was ying to soothe a buly, while another litclung to her, begging to be taken to ber lab.

pleasant lookout for the night " I mid to Margaret, in a voice much too flat and empty of emotion to be natural. They are aimest dead with sleep now ild she, and in a moment what did she do-

it gross over and take the haby and towtin ther young arrows arms. The buby we she is the change from the lax, nervous group say it. he noticer and burst toto a crowing

stopped waining and joined in the merri ment. How did Margaret happen to have a sweet cracker in the shape of a horse in her pecket-she who abhorred "dry flour! think it came to her as all her oth gifts did, and it comforted more of us than the baby and the baby's brother. That horse cantered and walked. It hid itself, it jumped out of queer places, and was finally dissected and doted out in the most minute and everlasting particles. To see Margaret so full of resources did not surorise me. I was too much used to her ferility and freshness to wonder at it, but her light laugh, the firm gentleness with which she runnaged both mother and children, as though she had no other care nor thought, did make me realize that the

Waily Hagle.

mexpected is the woman.

I had fancied I should have to comfort nd sustain her, but behold she was not only in good spirits, but she took it for



She sprang to her feet and she sand on or tears that would awared, and no ore the porter came to make the beds for the night I had coused to worry. I had not forgotten nor ignored Jack's tragody, but reserved my strength, and being a man healthy and tired I slopt all night and waked in the morning in good spirits and well rested. But Margaret was pale, and the lines around her mouth were drawn and dejected. Yet she roused herself, and the rest of the day bore herself cheerfully and with patience. But neither of us now remembers that day's journey. out the window and talked of what we naw, but nothing was real to us. I felt as though we had shut some horrid thing into closet, and were holding the door to keep

The day passed, the sun set, the twillight fell, and Margaret and I sat silent as we

dnew near our journey's end.
Tiger Hill was shrouded in mist and darkness when we entered it. By a lamp in the station a surly agent was making up a report from which he was loth to sep-arate himself to do more than mutter that there was a hotel up the street where we might find lodgings for the night. Having thus answered be buried himself again is his papers; but looking back as we left the room I caught his eyes fixed upon us with serious, suspicious expression that was not pleasant to me. But of this I did not speak to Margaret. She took my arm as we went out into the darkness ow," she said, "which is up and which

We stood on the little platform and oked around us. The clouds had lightmed enough for us to see the great hills agreely outlined against the sky. The ited was rising and rustled in the tree aps, and it seemed to us that we had been it out into the middle of a woods, addenly a light flared up and burned

steadily away off in the distance.
"That," I said, "must be a lamp, and a lamp generally betokens a house, you believe that direction is 'ups'

connot plungs into durkness without some So we stepped off the boards and wont. "Weil!" said I.

He pointed with his thumb over his cult to keep, so well tradden was fr. We soon discovered, as our eyes grow scene tomed to the darkness, that we were going through a small woods, and when after time we came out of it we found a oathway of boards, so narrow that we could no calk abreast, but it gave us comb rt, making us sure that we were on the light road. And so after a time we came to the light, and behold, it was the hotel to which we had been so vaguely directed. The bouse was a small wooden affair not consciou and smelling of tobacco, but my only smoker was a woman, who sat by a story the pipe in her month.

tered the open door she looked up, stares moment and then oslied, "Libertys" Whether this was the goddens or not we did not know, but there was no answer The woman then knocked the ashes out of her pipe into the sanded loss to which the stove stood, and giving her voice a higher pitch, screened again, "Liberty?" This nyocation was more ancesseful and a thin ale haired youth strolled into the room The women nodded toward us. The box looked at Margaras and his whole face flushed, and indeed I do not believe his eyes had ever rested on anything so fair as this girl in her dark drive, tired and silent,

standing there.
"We were told," said I, "that we sould have ledging here, and we should also like some support."
"Six down," said Liberty, and he strope

disappeared. No we sat down side by side on an old wooden settle, and it was not muny min-utes before. Margaret's hand stole into rates. I looked at her with apprehension and to my surprise she said clearly an-

"I am not afreid. I am only hongry." The woman booked at her ly slie your daughter?" who asked, "My nison," I promouly answered.

After what seemed to us a very long time

a man looking like a Presbyteden elegy

there was again allence.

so to a miner's clothes came in, and his turn stared at us, gave a little ned, and went out. Then the woman arees, to two pistes from a ciceet, two cups agone and began to propore a table for us. She spread no cloth, and she put th bacon and potators, which she fried to gether, upon our plates, dispensing with he formality of a most dish. pot she-pulled forward, poured some water on what was already to it and let it buil She put bread and better arrivouseptchied triple on the fable and bade as come and eat. And it was not ill fiswered to us The collee was flat and tilter, and neither one of us world have ordered fried become from a bill of fare, but in was all box end wage so in need of food, having had nothing to set since a heaty moon meal, mere nourishment was comfort

ing and helpful. Then when we had finished the women lighted two candies, and we crose and fol lowed her to two reasonably clean bed-rooms on the other side of the half. After

she had left us we set down and talked Now that we were in Timer Hill we have we agreed that we had host be signt, and we should say and to whom we should

"In the morning," and I, we will see uri, while the older child faterested, the class, and learn squark us of the bus-

There must us some one in suthorft; ere, and some one who has some sense of w. The very goasip may tell us where Jack is, and just what has happened. In he meantime we have come because I am interested in the mines, and you are my siece—as indeed, dear child, from this ma

neat you must be." And Margaret, leaning over, took my hand and kissed it, but I drow it away and aid it on her profty head, and prayed to God that she might in this adventure be

kept from harm and from sorrow.

And indeed it was but a few hours after that there was need of an instant-angue o this prayer.

I had been asloop about an hour when suddenly I awakened it seemed to me that something hed happened to arouse me, but overwhing was perfectly still. The hoot and the cry of a lonely cricket. I was just falling off to sleep again when the very skies seemed rent by a woman's scream. The sound was not in the house, is was far off and in the open air, but I in-

stantly knew it was Margaret's voice. Out of bed I sprang and into her room which was empty, and her cicthing was gone. On a chair by the bod stood her title satelied and a few toilet articles. In took my but a moment to fling on my house, and here and there I ran, trying to find some token of her, but I did not call nor speak. I am not young, but I am strong. I have been a man of temperate, athletic habits, and I have the use of a body nearly six feet in height, well knit, well keps, and whan I carried fewer years I saked nothing of my strength or andur-ance that I did not get. But at this mo-ment I thought of neither strength nor weakness, but I sped on, meaning to find my precious charge, I fell down, I run into trees, I plunged into water, I tripped over stones, but nothing buffled me, and my speed was little trollen. Then as I man I became awarn of sonnes inacticulate, at most insudible, which were those of the human being, and I knew I must be near a camp of some kind.

ing and following the sounds, which grew more and more distinct, and yet not intelligible, when without expenting it I andheart almost stop beating, so borrained was guret, in the center of some ten or fifteen ruffines. Her but was gone, her bair was down and a shawl was fastened about her pinioning for arms. But never saw I s. girl more thoroughly angry than she, and never have I heard a more hideous jarge sa than these men spoke to each other. I saw that she had been brought to the entrarma of a mine, and that not far off were some huts and sheds. Foresretely I was back in the shadow of the rooks, and i stord still, waiting to see what would happen and want I could do. At the moment I was poweries to do mere than preserve own freedom. It was evident that Margard understoodes lights as I del when the men said but she held berself with an of tone air in which there was more tenners than fear.

Just then the clerical gentle had impected as earlier in the might earn out of the sheds, and when he perceived the plight into which Margaret and been brought he went knowly to her, and with-"I do not know what they mannisby this

Have they hart you!" Margaret held out her white round rists, on which there were roll liven. They know so little of American girls, said she, "that they thought this would frighten me

You have reason enemals for febric " he returned, "without pay each treatment. "I have no expectation of being afraid," said she: "and if you command this band you have, let me tell you, sir, m set of cuscule under you." "You need not be senter," he realled

tell one who sugt was here." Surely you know all I ean tell you Where is the woman of the house in which we locked? I suppose she is your seconnites. When she called me out of envisorm

ted sakes me it I had a friend here I was frank and told hor. Ask her if you want "Softer, softer, my dear," he said. "You ook very pretty when you soold, butlyon's

onthro benefice and wiser. Where is the woman Warded Margaret. tabe has gone home to look your uncle a his room, to keep him from taking cold in the neght our."

Margaret turned har head away, as hough she meant to say she was done with I adored her for her courage, but I dentity doured she might not anger bins. fut he treated her as though she was a setulant child, and salted her questions, rom which I soon gotiered that they succeed us of being spice in the congloy of the owners of the mines, and that she had come with me to divert suspicion from our obext. It appeared to me that they had unded all this on some confused story to which the una constantly alluded but to which Margaret and at course no cleve. and I also endemtood that they had taid a rap of some kind to get Margaret away by ernelf, hoping to wring a confession from er, and that the woman of the house fact existed them. The girl acrewered buildy wough, and finally said that we were arrivers of Mr. Lewis, and had come to by I from to Mrs. When this was translated emen, trho news moved their one the faces of the two speakage, they ratally isospied, and she for the first time

or live parties command of femals. There was upo little man who were a fire ip, and he displayed his knowledge of nglish by occurrously crying outs "Tyourd the parms of Lowis he abrunged his houlders and gave an idiotic jump into ie air. It was sa much as I could do not go unit and shake the little monster, but had seem enough to keep ellest and int. Yes it was bred word—the hardest over tild. They builted Harquest, they will be turned our train a manufacture of they give taken some somewhole man is was buffling them. Timy related he mounter for naturance, her settings for eclinary, but they maked touch her.

Then Margaset soddenly drew her share! wer around her shoulders. "I am cold," e until "and I am tired. I wish you rould have more wood tiguers on the dies ad give me a seat by it." The finishmen, ben ship was transfered, made a regig at was in then tennelated to her, and it se that they would conice agrifue fire and we her a sent in the middle of it. The maded brutality of tide made her check sir, prione end not a word, but triring this of a fallen tree, which was evidently nie begin relaxed, and she looked se if could bear no more. She pas was lies inda to the now low fire, but its a trent routed her head on her hand. Him & red white. Then the date because etter, bolist up and did the ment satetadne thing.

the began to ting-to sing to a clear, ver, thefiling voice, which vikested with

and in his darri me atters and stood in shore